

stantly being proposed to meet ignorant or selfish wishes for the destruction of some bird or other, and the constant attention of such a body of trained men as the Audubon Societies provide is necessary to controvert such action.

We can only speak in this connection of these few activities of the Association; everyone should get the report and read it for themselves. Besides the reports of the field agents,—always interesting and instructive,—there are reports from seventeen state societies and forty-two bird clubs and other affiliated organizations. In the report of the treasurer we note that the annual membership contributions amount to nearly \$27,000; while a single anonymous subscription to the children's educational fund is for \$20,000. Truly the pioneers in this work can feel amply repaid for the time they unselfishly devoted to starting the movement for bird protection.—W. S.

**Zimmer on Rare Birds from Luzon and Mindoro.**<sup>1</sup>—Mr. Zimmer presents notes on specimens of forty-two species, which on account of rarity, unusual distribution, or peculiar plumage are worthy of record. The specimens are from collections made by himself during the years 1913–1916. One new form *Hyloterpe crissalis*, a Thickhead Shrike, is described as new (p. 230), from Mt. Banahao, Laguna, Luzon. A number of specimens of the hitherto unique *Zosterornis affinis* McGregor, were also obtained.—W. S.

**Recent Papers by Wetmore.**<sup>2</sup>—Mr. Wetmore has recently made a study of the anatomy of *Nyctibius* and upon comparing it with *Podargus* and several of the Caprimulgidæ he comes to the conclusion that the differences between the Podargi and the Caprimulgi, recognized as superfamilies of the suborder Nycticoraciæ by Ridgway, are not so transient and sharply defined as has been supposed. *Nyctibius* appears to be about midway between the Caprimulgidæ and the Podargidæ and of twelve principal structural characters, used in the classification of these birds, it agrees with each group in five particulars. Mr. Wetmore would arrange the Nycticoraciæ in two superfamilies, the Steatornithoidæ and the Caprimulgoidæ, the former containing the single genus *Steatornis* and the latter the families Podargidæ, Nyctibiidæ, Ægothelidæ and Caprimulgidæ, the last being regarded as the highest. Attention is called to the need of further study of the anatomy of *Ægotheles* and *Batrachostomus* in order to arrive at a clearer conception of their exact relationship. Our Australian coworkers should be able, with Mr. Wetmore's paper as a basis,

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<sup>1</sup> A Few Birds from Luzon and Mindoro. The Philippine Jour. of Science, Vol. XIII, Sect. D, No. 5, September, 1918, pp. 219–232.

<sup>2</sup> On the Anatomy of *Nyctibius* with Notes on Allied Birds. By Alexander Wetmore. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. 54, pp. 577–586.